

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2804

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

S E C R E T USNATO 5626

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJ: MBFR: LATEST ALLIED MANPOWER AND TANK HOLDINGS IN NGA

VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

REF: STATE 211555

1. DURING NOV 20 MBFR WORKING GROUP MEETING (DETAILS SEPTTEL),
CHAIRMAN DATA SUBGROUP (BRANSON) PROVIDED INFORMATION ON LATEST
ESTIMATES OF ALLIED MANPOWER AND TANK HOLDINGS IN NGA. THESE
ESTIMATES RESULT FROM IMS QUERY OF DELEGATIONS, ARE REPORTEDLY
CONFIRMED BY CAPITALS, AND REPRESENT ALLIED HOLDINGS AS OF
AUGUST 1973.

I. MANPOWER NEW NATO ESTIMATES U.S. ESTIMATES
 ROUNDED TO NEAREST PER REF A
SECRET

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500

BELGIAN	63,000	64,000
CANADA	3,000	3,000

FRANCE	64,000	63,000
FRG	340,000	321,000
LUXEMBOURG	500	500
NETHERLANDS	70,500	70,000
UK	60,000	62,000
U.S.	193,000	193,000

II. TANKS

BELGIAN	410	370
CANADA	30	30
FRANCE	260	300
FRG	2,700	2,800
LUXEMBOURG	--	--
NETHERLANDS	580	600
UK	520	600
U.S.	1,400	1,400

2. COMMENTS ON NEW NATO FIGURES WERE MADE BY SEVERAL REPS. BRANSON REPORTED THAT FRENCH DATA RESULTS FROM QUERY TO FRENCH DELEGATION AT NATO WHICH IN TURN CHECKED WITH FRENCH CORPS COMMANDER. THERE IS REPORTEDLY CONTINUING CHANGE IN FRENCH TANK HOLDINGS WHICH RESULT FROM PROGRESSIVE PHASE-OUT OF AMX VEHICLES. BELGIAN TANK FIGURE INCLUDES 42 TANKS ORGANIC TO TWO RESERVE BRIGADES EACH OF WHICH HAS A TANK SQUADRON OF 21 TANKS. BELGIAN REP FELT U.S. MIGHT NOT HAVE COUNTED THESE TANKS. GERMAN REP, WHO ONLY RECEIVED CONFIRMATION OF FIGURES LATE IN AFTERNOON FROM BONN, WAS UNABLE TO ACCOUNT FOR SUBSTANTIAL JUMP IN FRG MANPOWER FIGURE; SECURITY FORCES WERE DEFINITELY NOT INCLUDED IN NEW FIGURE, UK REP EXPLAINED THAT LOWER UK TANK FIGURE ARISES BECAUSE 91 TANKS ARE IN "MAIN-TENANCE RESERVE" THAT IS, NOT PART OF THE BAOR UNIT ORGANIZATION. BRANSON NOTED THAT U.S. FIGURES PROVIDED REF A HAVE NOW BEEN ADOPTED BY IMS. MANPOWER FIGURES FOR UK, FRANCE AND U.S. CONTINUE TO INCLUDE BERLIN GARRISONS.

3. WE WILL REPORT ANY EXPLANATION FOR FRG FIGURES WHEN RECEIVED.
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WITH NEW BONN INPUT, AGREED ALLIED FIGURE OF 777,000 IS NOW SUBSTANTIALLY OUT OF LINE WITH TOTAL RESULTING FOR NEW FIGURES, I.E., 794,000.

4. FOREGOING DATA SUBMISSION ILLUSTRATES DIFFICULTY AND HAZARDS OF WORKING WITH CURRENT FIGURES. AS BRANSON AND SEVERAL WG REPS HAVE POINTED OUT ON VARIOUS OCCASIONS, MANPOWER LEVELS WILL FLUCTUATE, IN SOME CASES SUBSTANTIALLY, DUE TO SEASONAL RECRUITMENT, RELEASE FROM ACTIVE DUTY, AND OTHER INTERNAL MILITARY PERSONNEL FACTORS. BRANSON FEELS THAT RECRUITMENT ELEMENT IS WHAT HAS FORCED UP CURRENT FRG MANPOWER FIGURE.
RUMSFELD

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